



Coxhoe Communicator

November 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move through November, the excitement for Christmas is building across the school! **There's so much coming up in the next few weeks, so please keep checking the calendar on the school website and app to stay up to date with all the festive events.**

We are incredibly proud to share that our school has achieved the Engaging Dads Kitemark Award – a fantastic recognition of our commitment to involving all parents and carers in school life. A huge thank you to everyone who supported our amazing Christmas Market this week. It was a wonderful event, and we couldn't have done it without the incredible volunteers who gave their time and energy to make it such a success. Your support means so much to us. All money raised at the Christmas Market will go towards taking the whole school to the pantomime in January.

Let's keep the festive spirit going – we can't wait to celebrate with you all!

Kind regards,
Mrs Bartle



Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended Autumn parents evening. If for whatever reason you were unable to attend, please contact Miss Armstrong who will liaise with class teachers to find a suitable time.

Handy Heroes Thank you

A huge thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Handy Heroes event. It was wonderful to see children and their male role models come together to enjoy making beautiful Christmas decorations and sampling the festive refreshments. The atmosphere was full of creativity and cheer. We are so grateful for your support in making the event such a success.

Art with Zoe

On Wednesday 12th November some of our children who expressed a passion for art and design were chosen to work with the talented artist, Zoe Robinson. We were lucky enough to take part in her inspiring wire sculpture workshop, where the children created beautiful wire birds that represented different areas of our curriculum. The workshop sparked creativity, confidence and a real sense of pride among our pupils.

To celebrate their achievements, we opened an evening exhibition for parents and carers to explore the children's amazing artwork and the reaction was wonderful. The detail, imagination and individuality in each sculpture shone through. Please check out our art page to see their stunning pieces!

Year 2 Hardwick Park visit

Year 2 had a wonderful day at Hardwick Park! The children went on a hunt around the park, looking for human and physical geographical features. They also took part in a woodland workshop where they explored different habitats within the park, linked to their new science topic. Check out Dahl and Milne's webpage to see some more photographs of our visit!

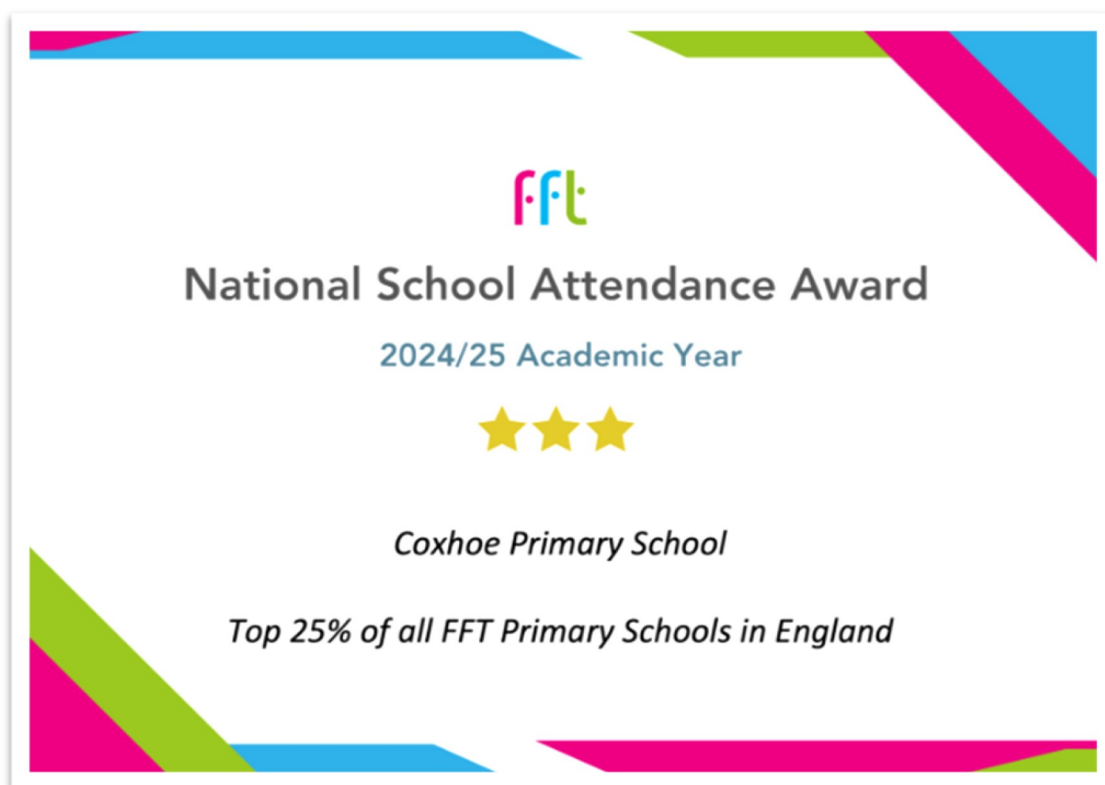


Bowburn Care Home

The children enjoyed a heartwarming visit to Bowburn Care Home, where we spent time playing games with the residents. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, friendly competition and plenty of smiles as everyone joined in.

Attendance celebrations

A huge thank you to our Coxhoe family for supporting us with attendance. We have been recognised as one of the 25% of all FFT Primary Schools in England. Well done!



Packed lunches

For the safety and wellbeing of all children, please ensure that any food in packed lunches is cut into small, manageable pieces if there is a risk of choking (for example, grapes, cherry tomatoes or hard fruit). We also kindly ask that packed lunches are balanced and healthy, helping pupils to stay energised and ready to learn throughout the day. Thank you for your support in keeping mealtimes safe and nutritious.



Sports Report

Children have continued to enjoy their PE lessons this half term, with many classes progressing through their invasion games units. It has been fantastic to see pupils developing their teamwork, strategy and passing skills. We are also excited to share that our netball team has begun competing in the Go Well Netball League. The team showed brilliant determination and sportsmanship in their first match and celebrated a well-deserved win! We look forward to seeing how they progress throughout their matches.

Music

Our children have continued to enjoy their music lessons this month and we are now well underway with our preparations for our school nativities (in Reception and Year 2), our Christmas sing-a-long in Year 1 and Christingle in Key Stage 2. We can't wait to share all of this with you. We would love to say a huge well done to our school choir who have made it through to the next round of their choir competition where they will compete against other schools in a few weeks time.



Careers Corner

"Career-related learning in primary schools is not about setting pupils down a specific path but ensuring they understand that there are many options open to them... to learn about the world around them".

Did You Know?

65% of children entering primary school today will work in jobs that don't exist yet!

Jobs are changing quickly—many careers today didn't exist 10 years ago!

- AR and VR app developers
- Social Media manager
- Drone operator
- AI prompt engineer
- Influencer
- Cloud computing specialist
- E-sports coach



Skills like creativity, resilience and communication are valuable in almost every role. Talking about these with your child helps them understand why learning matters.

Visit the Careers Page on our website to see what visits, visitors, assemblies and curriculum experiences we have been involved in which promote a range of careers to our children <https://coxhoe.sites.schooljotter2.com/curriculum-1/our-wider-coxhoe-curriculum/careers>

Weardale

Our Year 5 pupils had a fantastic time on their two-night residential at Weardale Adventures. The children embraced every challenge with enthusiasm — from outdoor activities and team-building games to exploring the beautiful surroundings. It was wonderful to see them grow in confidence, strengthen friendships and create lasting memories. A huge thank you to the staff who supported the trip and to the pupils for their positivity and resilience throughout.



SEND and Inclusion Update

Thank you to everyone who attended this term's Support Plan Review Meetings. It was wonderful to see so many of you and hear your invaluable input into how we continue to support the children. We are so excited to see the children continue to thrive and make positive steps forward over the next term.

Question of the Month: Where can I find SEND friendly events here in the Northeast over Christmas?

While the festive season is a time for joy and togetherness, it can also be a tricky time to navigate for those with additional needs. Many organisations and venues have made adaptations to support those who may otherwise find them difficult to access. These activities are designed to create welcoming, accessible spaces where every child and family can enjoy the magic of the holidays. From sensory-friendly Santa visits to quiet craft sessions, there's something for everyone to experience the season in a way that feels comfortable and fun.

You can find the list on the NEAS website www.ne-as.org.uk/autism-friendly-christmas-events-in-the-north-east

You can help by...

- ✓ Keeping your speed low, this will allow everyone else to see, think and act safely
- ✓ Always encourage your child to enter and exit your car on the pavement side
- ✓ Checking for pedestrians and cyclists before opening the car door
- ✓ Stopping for a school crossing patrol when asked
- ✓ Parking away from the school gates to reduce congestion
- ✓ Taking care when reversing

By remembering these points not only will you improve the safety of the area around our school, but you will also avoid receiving a parking ticket.

Please don't...

- ✗ Park on single or double yellow lines
- ✗ Double park
- ✗ Park across dropped kerbs
- ✗ Stop, drop or park on the school keep clear yellow zig zags
- ✗ Park on corners
- ✗ Park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction
- ✗ Park near the school entrance
- ✗ Block resident's driveways
- ✗ Idle your engine – this pollutes the air we breathe
- ✗ Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off

Show us
you care
- park
elsewhere

Fewer cars at the school entrance will help make it safer for everyone.

What you could do instead...

- ✓ Park and Stride – consider walking part of the way to school by parking away from the school and walking the rest of the way.
- ✓ Try car sharing – consider sharing the school run. If you have to drive to school then get together with other families who need to travel by car and take it in turns to drive.
- ✓ Walking Bus – organise a small group of parents/carers to share the walk to school and take it in turns with other parents/carers to do the school run. You could even combine this idea with Park and Stride.
- ✓ Cycling – you may be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there are in the areas that lead to school.



www.durham.gov.uk/schoolparking



Assembly Spotlight

In November we have explored current affairs inspired by Newsround in our class assemblies and learnt more about many different themes and topics in our wider school assemblies:

- Bonfire Night safety
- Antibullying Week
- Respectful relationships
- Mental wellbeing
- The importance of family
- Interfaith Week
- Understanding different families
- Singing assemblies (Christingle)

Find out more on our Assembly page on the school website

<https://coxhoe.sites.schooljotter2.com/curriculum-1/our-wider-coxhoe-curriculum/assembly-resources>

Leave of absence forms

Leave of absence forms can be found on our school website for you to complete. They are also available from the school office. Please note if you wish to submit a leave of absence form, it must be completed 4 weeks before the said absence and both parents need to sign the form.

Dickens Class Museum

Dickens absolutely loved showcasing all their hard work to their grown-ups during the Class Museum. We had exhibits of history timelines, human life cycles, playground designing, musical graphic scores and many more. The children particularly enjoyed using digital green-screens to crop their visitors into different locations without leaving our school hall. Huge well done to all the parents who took part in the times tables test but the children on the maths table were impossible to beat! We hope everyone had as much fun as we did!

Lates

We understand school mornings are a hectic time of the day but, to minimise interruption to lessons, all children need to arrive at school **between 8:40-8:55am**. Gates do close promptly at 8:55 and children arriving after this time will need to be dropped off at the main entrance. If you are struggling with morning routines please contact Miss Armstrong, family liaison, for support.

Enterprise Explorers

Year 5 pupils started an exciting new project that will put us up against other Year 5 groups, led by Ferryhill School. The children enjoyed their first session about team building and are looking forward to putting their business skills to the test next month!

Residential Visits

The Residential Visits for our children this year are:

Year 4: Beamish	Thursday 19th March—Friday 20th March The deadline has now passed for children to add on to this trip.
Year 6: London	Monday 22nd June—Wednesday 24th June The deadline has now passed for children to add on to this trip.
Year 3: Camping—outdoors adventure	Monday 6th July—Tuesday 7th July
Year 2: Late night stay	Friday 10th July

Please ensure you check your emails for payment deadlines for the trips, please contact of the office if you have any queries.

Attendance

We kindly remind you of the importance of notifying the school if your child will be absent. To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, please call the school office before 9:00 AM on the day of the absence. **This is part of our school policy, if we are unable to make contact with you we may need to conduct a home visit.**